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Renata Hesse, Trial Attorney
Suite 1200
Antitrust Division, Department of Justice
601 D Street NW, Washington, DC 20530

Dear Renata Hesse, Trial Attorney

U.S. v. Microsoft

As a self-employed PC user, many aspects of my livelihood depend on the smooth functioning of my home computer and my freedom to choose the appropriate software to meet the needs of my business. Microsoft's actions have caused undue frustrations and increased workload on my part in its efforts to illegally maintain monopoly power in the PC operating system market. For example, by binding its Internet Explorer Web Browser with its Windows operating system, Microsoft has forced me, the consumer, to take extraneous measures to exercise my right to choose the appropriate browser software for my needs. The Court has found that Microsoft has not acted in this way to benefit the consumer, or even to competitively increase revenues, but to illegally maintain its monopoly power. In effect, Microsoft has illegally victimized consumers for its own preponderance. I find this infuriating, and in direct contradiction to the laws and basic principles of the competitive free market that has made the United States of America what it is today.

As an international consumer of products originating in the United States, I feel I speak for my peers in expressing deep concern that the lenient sentence passed on to Microsoft will allow Microsoft to continue to rob consumers of their right to choose and to illegally propagate its monopoly as it has freely done so. Moreover, a monopoly of this kind will, as it has in the past, result in retardation of technological advancement and economical turmoil due to inflated prices and unhealthy market conditions. The consumer is the lowest common denominator in the entire economic system, as we know it today. If this lenient sentence is ratified, it will sacrifice the rights of consumers worldwide; and that is a tragedy that will have grave consequences for years and years to come.

I urgently plead for a much more stern, much more responsible and appropriate sentence in the case of United States of America v. Microsoft Corporation.

Sincerely,

Yee Jee Tso